

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an anti-Kerry
documentary days
before the election
is a clear example
of the dangers of
media consolidation.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. During the
Reagan
administration, the
FCC revoked a policy
requiring stations
that broadcast
partisan programming
on one side of the
aisle, to broadcast
equal time for the
opposite side in
order to serve the
public interest. It
would be in
America's best
interest to
reinstitute that
policy as soon as
possible. Why was
this policy revoked
in the first place,
and why has it not
been reinstated?

Americans count on a
free press to inform
them on the issues
of the day. When
one side of the
political spectrum
dominates the
airwaves of the
nation, we are no
better off than any
other nation under a
dictatorship.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. They
show why the license
renewal process
needs to involve
more than a returned
postcard. And they
show the need to
reinstate policies

guaranteeing equal
time for partisan
programming on the
nation's airwaves.

Thank you.